

I-25 Nogal Canyon Bridge Replacement Project

Socorro County, NMDOT District 1

Public Presentation

Friday, December 5, 2025

Control Number 1100980

AGENDA



1. Project Overview
2. Project Purpose and Need
3. What's Happened So Far?
4. What's Being Proposed
5. Upcoming Schedule and What to Expect
6. Public Input
7. Contact Us

PROJECT DEVELOPMENT TEAM



New Mexico DEPARTMENT OF
TRANSPORTATION
MOBILITY FOR EVERYONE

(NMDOT)



U.S. Department of Transportation
**Federal Highway
Administration**

(FHWA)





PROJECT AREA

- The I-25 bridges were built in 1968 between **Socorro** and **Truth or Consequences**
 - Bridge No. 6776 (northbound)
 - Bridge No. 6777 (southbound)
- Two 3-span Warren Truss bridges with a 265 ft main span
 - Bridge width: 34 ft (two 12 ft lanes, 3.5 ft shoulders)
 - Right-of-way width: 200-550 ft (approx. 100-300 ft on each side of I-25)
 - Bridges are considered **historically-eligible**
- Adjacent lands owned by:
 - Bureau of Land Management (BLM)
 - State of New Mexico
 - Private property owners

PROJECT PURPOSE AND NEED

The purpose of the project is to correct safety and operational deficiencies associated with the Nogal Canyon bridges and to fully meet design criteria and federal standards for interstate highways. Project needs include:

- **Improving safety** for drivers and freight traffic
- **Protecting the environment** by reducing erosion and enhancing slope stability
- **Maintaining regional connectivity** for residents, tourists and commercial freight
- **Ensuring long-term reliability** of New Mexico's interstate network



WHAT'S HAPPENED SO FAR?

2020

Phase I-A/B Report

- Phase I-A Initial Evaluation of Alternatives
- Phase I-B Detailed Evaluation of Alternatives

2023 – 2025

Bridge Type Selection Report and Phase I-A/B Addendum

- These reports examined several additional bridge type alternatives
- A Preferred Alternative was recommended

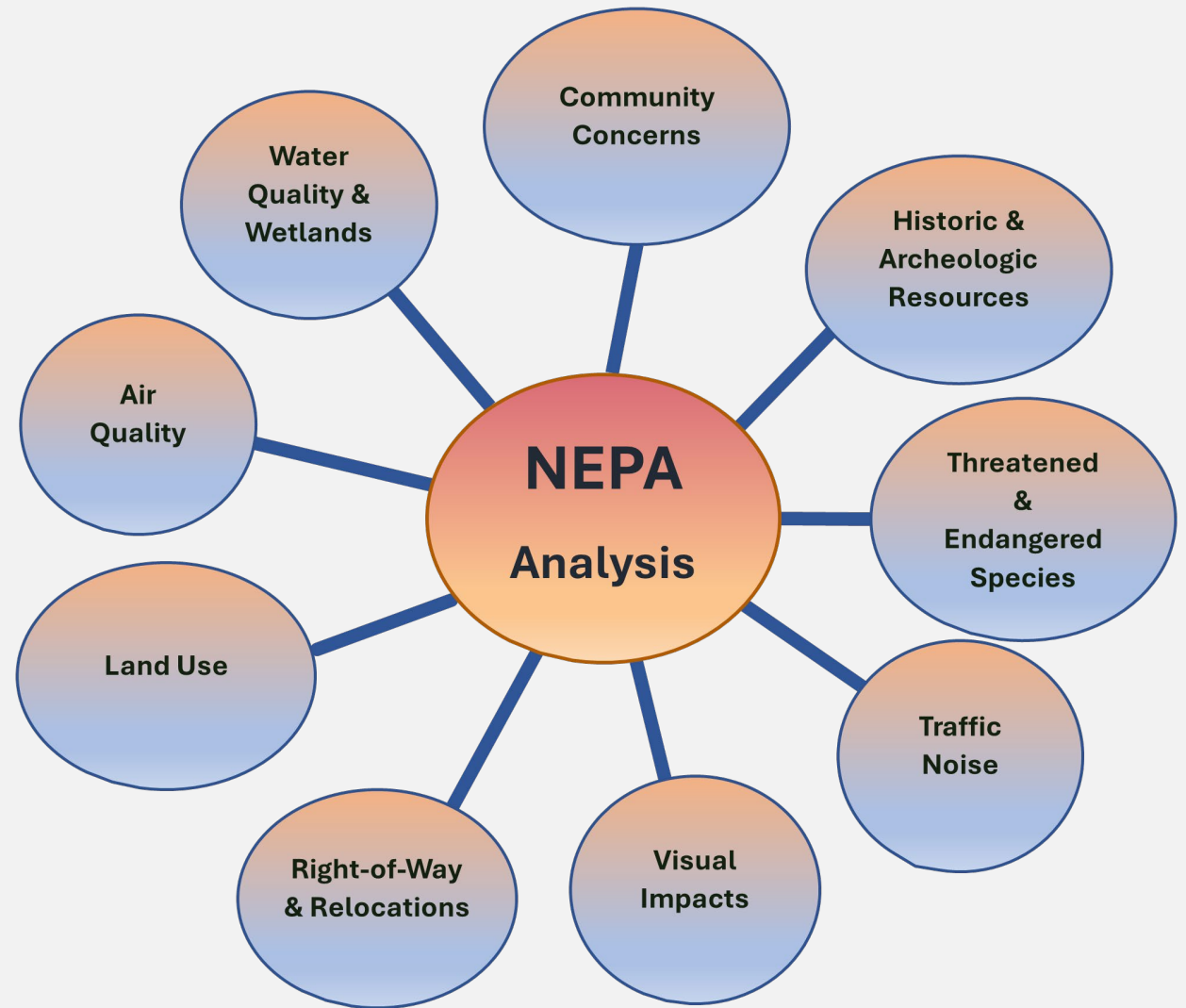
2025

Value Engineering (VE) Report

- The VE Report refined the Preferred Alternative

NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT (NEPA) AND OTHER ENVIRONMENTAL PROCESSES

- NEPA requires that a variety of environmental factors be considered in decision making for federal projects.
- The study team conducted biological, paleontological, and cultural resource investigations and consulted with affected agencies and local property owners.
- The only substantial impact identified consists of adverse effects to cultural resources from removal of the Nogal Canyon bridges.



SECTION 4(F) ANALYSIS

- The 1966 USDOT Act Section 4(f) protects historic resources unless there is no other prudent and feasible option and measures have been taken to minimize harm.
- The project team will further coordinate with New Mexico State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) to determine methods to mitigate adverse effects.



PRELIMINARY ALTERNATIVES

The project team reviewed potential alternatives, including preserving existing bridges, during Phase I-A/B. These alternatives included:

- Building new bridges and remove the two existing bridges
- Retrofitting or rehabilitating the two existing bridges
- Creating a new culvert without the existing bridges
- A no-build alternative option



PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE

The preferred alternative selected was to **build new bridges** and **remove the existing bridges**.

- Building new bridges is the most feasible and efficient way to fulfill the project purpose and need
- Maintaining the existing bridges poses significant construction, long-term maintenance, safety and security challenges



WHAT'S CHANGING - VALUE ENGINEERED BRIDGE OPTION

Single Span, Cast-in-Place Concrete Segmental Bridge



Key Benefits:

- Construction stays out of the canyon below
- Reduces right-of-way impacts to BLM and state lands
- Reduction in overall projects costs



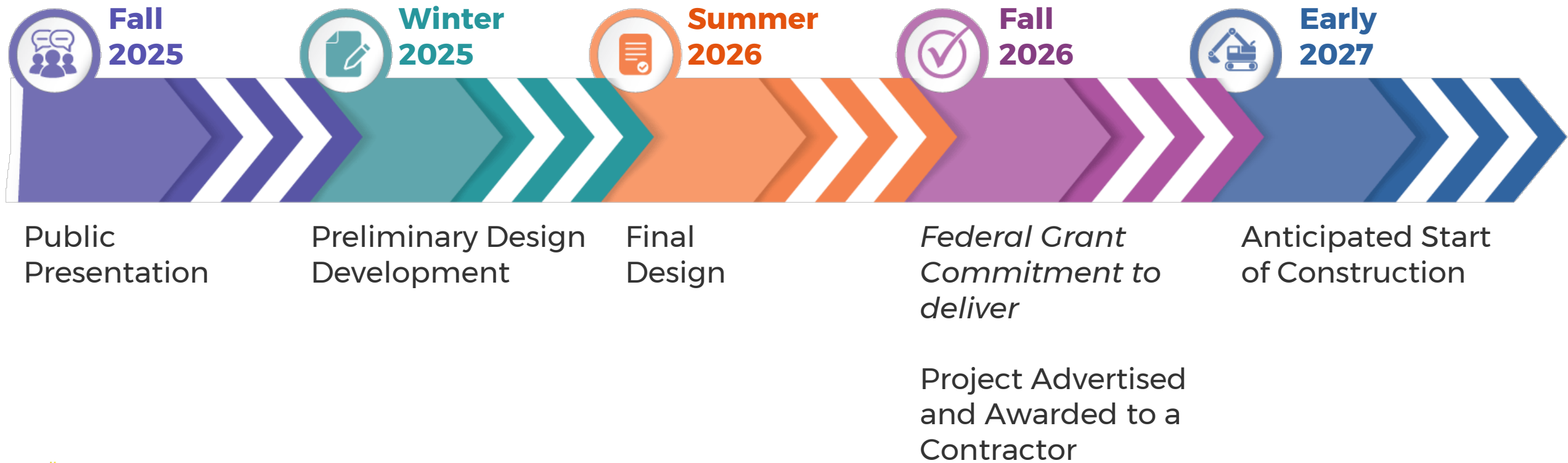
WHAT'S BEING PROPOSED

- Replacing existing structures and constructing **two new bridges** (one northbound and one southbound)
- **Improving drainage** to existing slopes and canyon
- **Improving slope stability** with slope protection and grading



Bridges 6776 and 6777

SCHEDULE AND NEXT STEPS

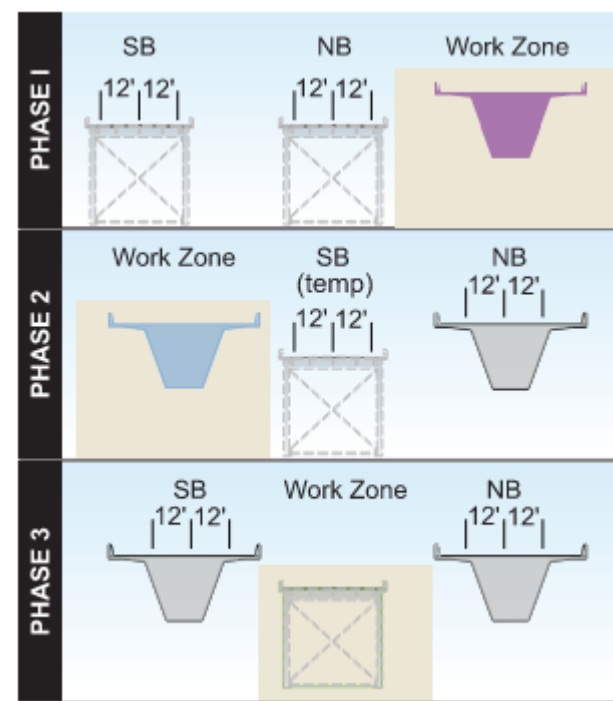


WHAT TO EXPECT DURING CONSTRUCTION:



Construction will be planned to reduce impacts to the traveling public. Please maintain caution in the area and expect:

- **Lane shifts and lower speeds:** This includes temporary lane changes, short closures and work-zone speed limits.
- **Short-term detours for specific activities:** Be on the lookout for signs and workers in the area.
- **Emergency access will be maintained:** Fire, ambulance and law enforcement access will remain open.



We want to hear from you!

For any comments, questions, or concerns:



bit.ly/NMDOTNogal



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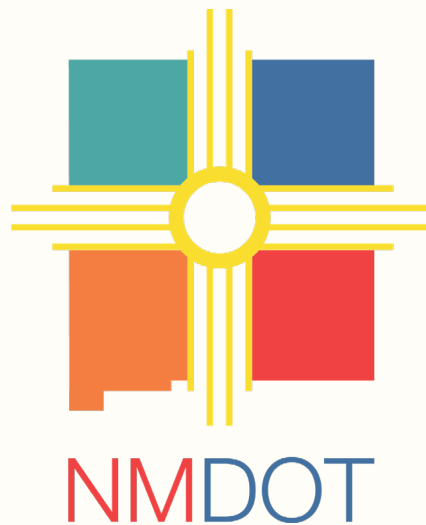
505.878.6521



Comment deadline:
Sunday, December 21, 2025



**NMDOT Project Website
QR Code**



Thank You!



**NMDOT Project
Website QR Code**